

Welcome to the West Chester Area School District's

Full-Day Kindergarten Program



What does a full day of kindergarten look like in the WCASD?

Morning

- Arrival/Social Activities
- English Language Arts
- Midmorning Snack/
Break

Lunch / Recess

Afternoon

- Art, Library, Music, and
Physical Education
- Math Workshop
- Science/Social Studies



Hours of Instruction:

8:40AM - 3:10PM, drop off after 8:00AM:
East Bradford, East Goshen, Exton,
Glen Acres

9:10AM - 3:40PM, drop off after 8:30AM :
Fern Hill, Hillsdale, Mary C. Howse,
Penn Wood, Starkweather, Westtown-
Thornbury



For more information on Full-Day Kindergarten in the WCASD, please visit www.wcasd.net. Under **Quick Links**, click **Kindergarten Information**.

Questions? Contact the WCASD Office of Elementary Education: 484-266-1009

Our Mission: The mission of the West Chester Area School District is "To educate and inspire our students to achieve their personal best."

WCASD Full-Day Kindergarten Curriculum

WCASD is excited to offer full-day kindergarten! Young children learn academics at different rates and in different ways. All children learn through play. It is our goal to foster the love of learning through this approach.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS - The English Language Arts (ELA) program in kindergarten provides a strong foundation in communication. Teachers help students develop verbal and written language skills through thoughtful interactions and guided discussions. Word play activities, rhyming stories, and songs help develop phonemic awareness, the recognition of the sounds in words, which are building blocks for reading and writing. Students also learn to use pictures, symbols, and text when reading and writing. As children develop the ability to identify letter sounds and high-frequency words, they begin to read both fiction and nonfiction books. Kindergartners also learn a variety of strategies to comprehend what they read and have read to them.

ART - Through a variety of play-based and hands-on activities, students learn basic principles of visual arts. They use fine motor skills and develop the ability to follow basic rules and routines. Children are introduced to cutting and scissoring skills, coloring technique, painting technique, drawing using lines and shapes, tracing, gluing, folding paper, tearing paper, shapes, color theory, and clay.

MUSIC - Students learn the basic principles of music and movement and demonstrate vocal awareness. Students are introduced to musical form, melody, rhythm, tempo, and tone.

LIBRARY - Classroom teachers and librarians collaborate to provide an integrated and cohesive connection for students who learn to use the library, access information, develop foundational technology skills, and check out books and materials.

MATH - The math standards for kindergarten can be characterized into two main categories: early numeracy and describing shapes and sets. Students apply strategies to count and produce sets of given sizes, and they progress to counting the number of objects that remain in a set after some are taken away. The relationship between addition and subtraction is explored as students investigate how two different number sentences are connected.

For example, $5 + 2 = 7$ and $7 - 2 = 5$.

Students are introduced to early concepts of geometry and learn to analyze and compare figures. They are also introduced to simple estimation.

SCIENCE - The kindergarten science curriculum uses the National Research Council's Weather and Life Cycle of the Butterfly units. Students are introduced to a variety of science lessons through non-fiction readers and science note-

SOCIAL STUDIES - Kindergarten students are taught basic geography, economics, government, and history concepts through stories, lessons, and interactive, hands-on activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Kindergarten students explore safe movement through personal, reciprocal, and group activities. They use a wide range of gross motor skills such as walking, running, skipping, and jumping as well as twisting, turning, spinning, and bending. Students explore manipulative skills such as tossing, catching, rolling, and kicking. They learn to play organized games with the understanding of rules, boundaries, taking turns, and sharing. Health concepts such as developing healthy living habits (diet, exercise, hygiene, and adequate sleep) are also introduced.